

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
(Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council)

Chairman: Mr. Dennis L. Fish, District No. 5

The COMMITTEE ON FINANCE met on Monday, February 16, 2004, Berkeley County Office Building, 223 North Live Oak Drive, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, at 6:55 p.m.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the electronic and print media were duly notified.

PRESENT: Mr. Dennis L. Fish, Councilmember District No. 5, Chairman; Mr. Milton Farley, Councilmember District No. 1; Mrs. Judith K. Spooner, Councilmember District No. 2; Mr. William E. Crosby, Councilmember District No. 3; Mr. Charles E. Davis, Councilmember District No. 4; Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., Councilmember District No. 7; Mr. Steve C. Davis, Councilmember District No. 8; Mr. James H. Rozier, Jr., Supervisor, ex officio; Mr. D. Mark Stokes, County Attorney; and Ms. Barbara Austin, Clerk to County Council. Mrs. Judy C. Mims, Councilmember District No. 6 was excused from this Finance Committee Meeting.

Chairman Fish called the meeting to order and asked the Committee's approval of the Minutes for the Finance Committee held on January 27, 2004.

It was moved by Councilmember Crosby and seconded by Councilmember Steve Davis to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Without objection, Supervisor Rozier recognized the Employees of the month; and also, the Employee of the year that was chosen from among those employees. He stated a committee was appointed 15 months ago to choose the employees and the Committee had asked that the employees selected be acknowledged this evening. The employees were presented as follows:

September 2002	Herman Pinckney, Mosquito Abatement
October 2002	Alfredia Jones, Communications
November 2002	Ulysses Green, Sheriff's Office
December 2002	Gloria Brown, MIS
January 2003	Yolanda Ellis, Permitting
February 2003	Lana Glover, Library
March 2003	Teresa Kennedy, Roads & Bridges
April 2003	Patsy Wright, Administrative Services
May 2003	Pamela Powell, Administrative Services
June 2003	Patsy Litchfield, Library
July 2003	Ester Cribb, Administrative Services
August 2003	Lynn Cunningham, MIS

September 2003	Jesse Burgess, MIS
October 2003	Sean Mizner, Sheriff's Office
November 2003	Charles Arrowood and Christopher Jones, EMS
December 2003	Denise Barlow, Real Property Service

2003 Employee of the Year, Herman Pinckney, Mosquito Abatement.

Supervisor Rozier expressed his gratitude to all of the employees for doing a great job for Berkeley County.

Also, Supervisor Rozier read a Certificate of Appreciation, presented by the Berkeley County Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem Foundation to Berkeley County Government for all employees in support of the Guardian Ad Litem Program and the Christmas Angel Tree Project.

Item A, Mr. Ronnie Williams, Berkeley County Assessor, Re: Additional funds for Department.

In the absence of Mr. Williams, Supervisor Rozier stated that the request was for \$30,000 for postage to come from Contingency. He stated they had hoped that property would not be reassessed this year and could be postponed until next year; however, it could not be delayed and 81,000 assessment notices must be mailed.

It was moved by Councilmember Pinckney and seconded by Councilmember Charles Davis to approve the request in the amount of \$30,000 for postage to come from Contingency. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item B, Ms. Colleen Carney, Berkeley County Library Director, Re: One month's funding for a Professional position for the Daniel Island Library.

Ms. Carney stated she had requested funding for a professional position for the Daniel Island Library with hopes that someone could be hired and trained before the plans to open the library in January 2005. There have been 27 professional positions advertised in South Carolina since July. Most of those are professional positions above the entry level, and are paying more than the position that she is asking for. The problems with recruitment of Professional Librarians had been mentioned in relation to this position. Ms. Carney stated she had also been recruited within the last week to apply for a director's position in another county, which is indicative that the recruitment process is getting more and more competitive.

It was moved by Councilmember Charles Davis and seconded by Councilmember Spooner to approve one month's funding in the amount of \$3,628.35 for

a professional position at the Daniel Island Library. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item C, Ms. Nicole Scott Ewing, Esq., Deputy County Attorney, Re: Transfer of property in the Sangaree area for the use of a Public Library and payment of taxes associated therewith.

Ms Ewing stated that Council approved a Resolution in October accepting land from Sangaree Parks and Recreation for the use of a library. At the time the issue of payment of taxes was not addressed. They have made contact with the Legal Office and have asked that Berkeley County pay the taxes, not only for tax year 2003, but also, 2004. Since that was not discussed at the time Council accepted the land transfer, she thought it best to come to Council and ask for guidance on how to proceed.

Supervisor Rozier stated the County's position would be to pay the taxes and fees. We are accepting land to build a library and should not expect Sangaree to pay the taxes.

It was moved by Councilmember Charles Davis and seconded by Councilmember Spooner to approve payment of taxes and fees for land accepted from Sangaree to come from Contingency. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item D, Bryan, Truesdale, Atkins and Williams, PA, Certified Accountants, Re: Presentation of Audit and Financial Statements.

Supervisor Rozier explained the presentation of the Audit had been scheduled for this evening but he received a fax late this evening from the Auditors and they have asked that their letter be read into the record. He read the letter as follows:

"Dear Mr. Rozier, this to inform you that we will be unable to deliver the Audit Report to County Council tonight. We are waiting for a response to your letter dated January 16, 2004, to the Law Firm of Young, Clement, Rivers & Tisdale. The letter requests representation as to the matters which the law firm devoted substantive attention on behalf of Berkeley County, its Constitutional Officers, or employees, in their capacity as representatives or agents of the County, specifically asking them to identify any material pending or threatened litigation, claims, and assessments for which Berkeley County may be liable.

"We requested that you ask Young, Clement, Rivers & Tisdale for this representation because they were compensated for services to the Clerk of Court during the year ended June 30, 2003.

"We do not release audit reports until responses to such queries have been answered because of the risk that a material contingent liability that should be recorded or disclosed in the financial statements may exist.

"We had hoped to receive that response today but have been informed by the law firm that they would be unable to meet the deadline.

"Please accept my apologies for the last minute notification. We will inform you when we do receive the response and will release the audit report at that time. Charlotte Allen, CPA, Bryan Truesdale, Adkins & Williams, PA."

Item E, REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY,
Councilmember Mrs. Judy C. Mims, Chairman.

In the absence of Mrs. Mims, Councilmember Spooner reported that on recommendation of the Committee she moved to approve additional funds for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$89,000 to come from Contingency. (No Second Required)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee. (That concluded Mrs. Mims' report)

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND PURCHASING,
Councilmember Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., Chairman.

Councilmember Pinckney stated the Committee met on February 9, 2004, and on recommendation of the Committee he moved to approve the funding of a position change in the Engineering Department in the amount of \$2,093.50 to come from Contingency. (No Second Required)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee. (That concluded Mr. Pinckney's report.)

It was moved by Councilmember Crosby and seconded by Councilmember Steve Davis to adjourn. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

March 15, 2004
Date Approved

FINANCE
(Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council)

Chairman: Mr. Dennis L. Fish, District No. 5

Members: Mr. Milton Farley, District No. 1
Mrs. Judith K. Spooner, District No. 2
Mr. William E. Crosby, District No. 3
Mr. Charles E. Davis, District No. 4
Mrs. Judy C. Mims, District No. 6
Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., District No. 7
Mr. Steve C. Davis, District No. 8
Mr. James H. Rozier, Jr., Supervisor, ex officio

A **Meeting** of the **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**, Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council, will be held on **Monday, February 16, 2004**, in the Assembly Room, Berkeley County Office Building, 223 North Live Oak Drive, Moncks Comer, South Carolina, following the meeting of the Committee on Water and Sanitation at 6:00 pm.

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 27, 2004

A. Mr. Ronnie Williams, Berkeley County Assessor, Re: Additional funds for Department.

B. Ms. Colleen Carney, Berkeley County Library Director, Re: One month's funding for a Professional position at the Daniel Island Library.

C. Ms. Nicole Scott Ewing, Esq., Deputy County Attorney, Re: Transfer of property in the Sangaree area for the use of a Public Library and payment of taxes associated therewith.

D. Bryan, Truesdale, Atkins and Williams, PA, Certified Accountants, Re: Presentation of Audit and Financial Statements.

E. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

- 1. Committee on Justice and Public Safety**
Council Member Mrs. Judy Mims, Chairman
 - a. Sheriff's Department: Additional funds.

2. **Committee on Public Works and Purchasing**
Council Member Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Chairman
 - a. Engineering Department: Change in position.

February 11, 2004
S/Barbara B. Austin
Clerk of County Council

